### **NASA** and Me

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#### Who Am I?

- High School: St. Francis Xavier's School, Hong Kong (1983)
- College Degrees:
  - Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering (University of Maryland, 1989)
  - Currently pursuing a Master of Science in Systems Engineering (Stevens Institute of Technologies, NJ, USA)
- Professional License/certificate:
  - Professional Engineer of Virginia, USA
  - Space Systems Engineering Certificate
- NASA Engineer for 21 years
- Disciplines:
  - Mechanical Engineering, Systems Engineering, and Human Factors
- Current Job:
  - NASA Human Factors and Systems Engineer at NASA Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas
  - Manager, Usability Testing and Analysis Facility
  - Manager, Small Business Innovative Research Human Factors Subtopic
- Resides in Sugar Land, Texas (at city near Houston, Texas)

My Workplace ...



US President Dwight D. Eisenhower established the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) in 1958, partially in response to the Soviet Union's launch of the first artificial satellite (Sputnik) the previous year. NASA grew out of the National Advisory Committee on Aeronautics (NACA), which had been researching flight technology for more than 40 years.



#### **NASA's Four Principal Organizations**

NASA conducts its work in four principal organizations, called mission directorates:

•<u>Aeronautics</u>: pioneers and proves new flight technologies that improve our ability to explore and which have practical applications on Earth.

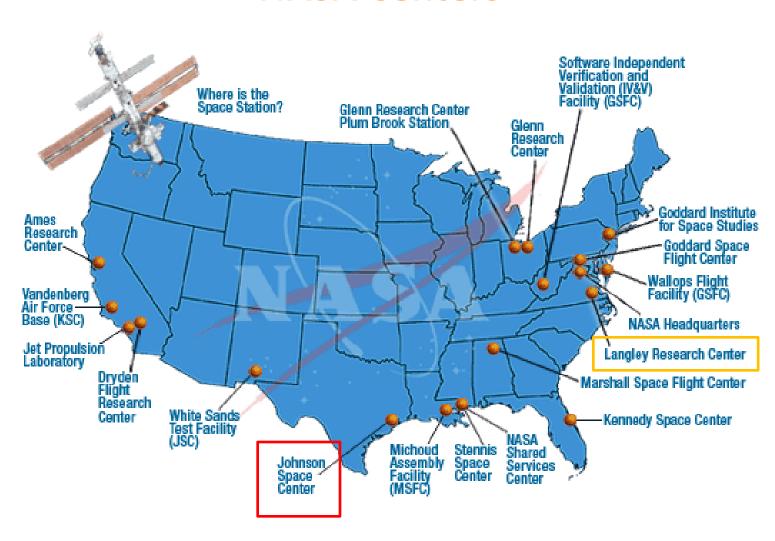
• <u>Exploration Systems</u>: creates capabilities for sustainable human and robotic exploration.

•<u>Science</u>: explores the Earth, solar system and universe beyond; charts the best route of discovery; and reaps the benefits of Earth and space exploration for society.

•Space Operations: provides critical enabling technologies for much of the rest of NASA through the space shuttle, the International Space Station and flight support.



#### **NASA Centers**



#### I work @ NASA Johnson Space Center



Main Campus: Lyndon Johnson Space Center, Houston, Texas (Where I work)



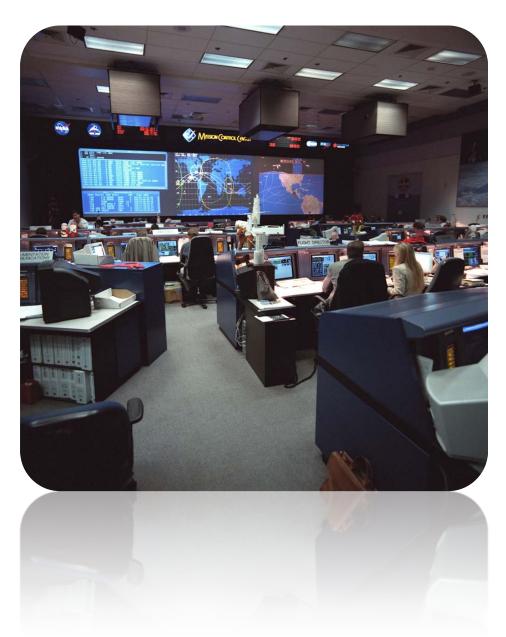
Ellington Airfield, Houston, Texas



White Sands Test Facility, White Sands, New Mexico

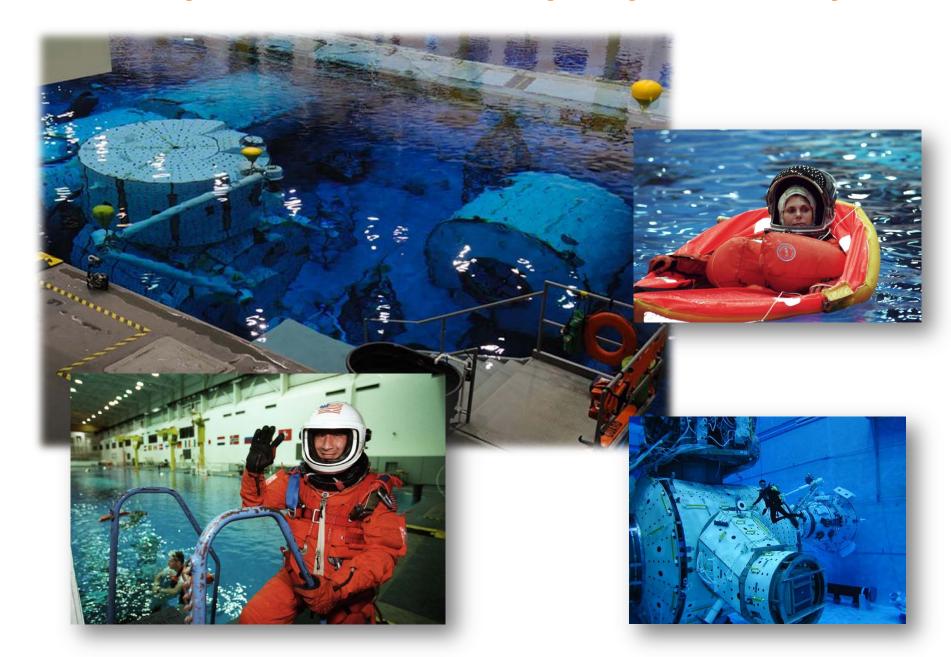
# NASA Johnson Space Center Major Facilities ...

#### **Mission Control Center**





#### **Sonny Carter Neutral Buoyancy Laboratory**

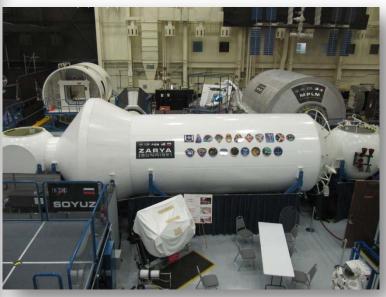


#### **Vehicle Mockup Facility – Shuttle Mockups**



# Vehicle Mockup Facility – International Space Station Mockups





#### NASA Johnson Space Center Major Projects ...

# Space Shuttle and International Space Station Operations



# **Ares V Rocket Ares I Rocket**

#### **Constellation Program**

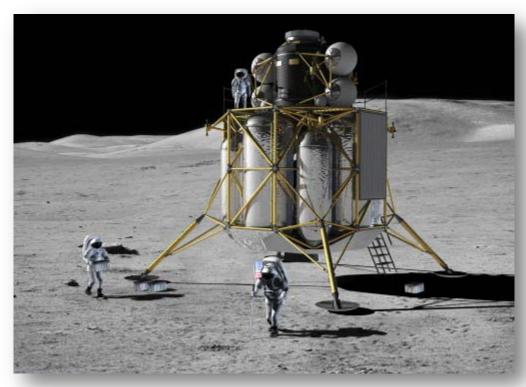


Ares I Rocket with Crew Exploration Vehicle



**Ares V Rocket with Lunar Lander** 

#### **Constellation Program**



**Lunar Lander Concept** 



**Crew Exploration Vehicle and Lunar Lander Concepts** 

#### **Constellation Program**



**Crew Exploration Vehicle Test Article** 



**Launch Abort Testing** 



Crew Exploration Vehicle
Test Article

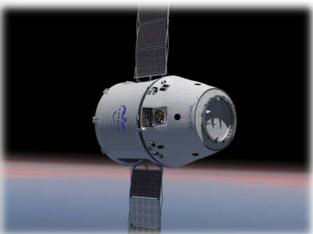


**Launch Abort Rocket** 

**Launch Abort Test in April 2010** 

#### **Commercial Space Vehicles Development**







# My Job Functions at NASA Johnson Space Center ...

## Usability Testing and Analysis Facility (UTAF) Overview

- One of the Space Human Factors Laboratories of NASA Johnson Space Center's Habitability and Human Factors Brach
- Human Factors: A engineering/psychology discipline that develops human and machine system interfaces
- UTAF Primary focus: Human factors evaluation and usability testing of crew/vehicle interfaces
- Staff
  - NASA Manager / Technical Monitor: Douglas Wong
  - Contractor Lead: Kritina Holden
  - Current number of staff members: 10
- http://sf.jsc.nasa.gov/HHFO/utaf/default.aspx

#### **Space Habitat Evaluations with Mockups**







**Lunar Space Habitat Evaluations using Mockups** 

#### **Crew Space Vehicle Evaluations**



**Crew Exploration Vehicle Habitable Volume Evaluations** 



**Space Vehicle Control Evaluations** 



**Space Suit Evaluations** 



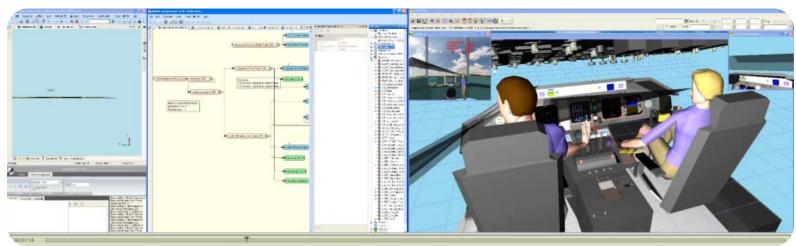
**Space Vehicle Display Evaluations** 

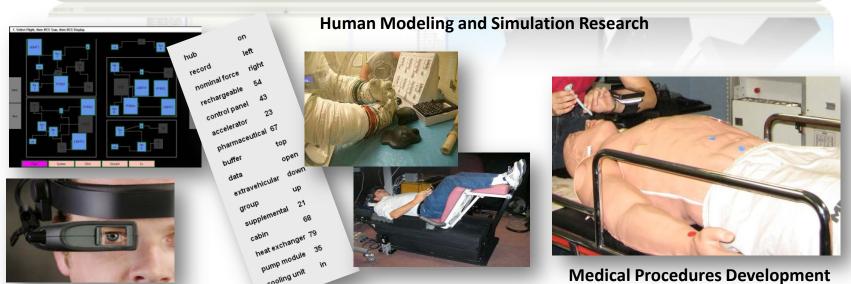
#### **Crew Space Vehicle Evaluations**



**Lunar Rover Evaluations** 

#### **Human Factors Research**





**Information Presentation Research** 

What I have learned through life ...



#### These are things I've learned

- Find your talents and recognize your weaknesses, then
  - Sharpen your talents
  - Accept and correct your weaknesses
- Find your passion and pursue it (you may have multiple)
- Maintain a balanced life
- Learn as much as you can (not just from school)
- Be curious
- Develop an analytical mind
- Don't let others think for you
- Think globally (everything is connected)
- See difficulties / adversities as opportunities to learn new things

#### !! Don't forget !!

- Your family, relatives, and friends
- The people / living things around you
- Love your environment



## Questions?